

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer program tangibly embodied on computer-readable medium that is programmed to, when executed:

receive a user input identifying, from among multiple publications, a publication that identifies a type of data to be distributed to data sites;

receive a user input identifying a distribution criterion that defines the basis upon which the type of data identified by the publication is to be distributed to the data sites, the distribution criterion comprising a query executable against portions of application data;

store, as information to be used by a subscription generator for the publication, information associating the publication that identifies the type of data to be distributed [[and]] with the distribution criterion for use in generating data subscriptions in a network of distributed computer systems operating an application program having application data of various data types;

access information for the subscription generator including the information associating the publication with the distribution criterion including the query;

execute, based on the accessed information for the subscription generator, the query against portions of the application data to generate a list of subscriptions for the publication associated with the subscription generator ~~identify at least one result;~~

modify, based on generation parameters associated with the subscription generator, the list of subscriptions generated based on execution of the query;

~~identify at least one of the data sites to which the type of data is to be distributed using the at least one result of the executed query; and~~

generate data subscriptions for the publication associated with the subscription generator based on the modified list of subscriptions; type of data to be distributed to data sites by

automatically assigning assign the data subscriptions to the at least one of the data sites to the generated data subscriptions based on the application data; and identified using the at least one result of the executed query

send replication messages that distribute portions of the type of data identified by the publication associated with the subscription generator based on the assignment of data sites to the generated data subscriptions.

2. (Previously Presented) The medium of claim 1 wherein the type of data to be distributed to data sites comprises a business object type.

3. (Previously Presented) The medium of claim 1 wherein the type of data to be distributed to data sites comprises a publication.

4. (Previously Presented) The medium of claim 1 wherein the distribution criterion comprises an attribute of the type of data to be distributed.

5. (Previously Presented) The medium of claim 1 wherein the distribution criterion comprises a distribution criterion based on a relationship of data with an employee that uses a data site.

6. (Previously Presented) The medium of claim 1 wherein the distribution criterion comprises a distribution criterion based on a responsibility of an employee that uses a data site.

7-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for receiving information from a user for use in generating data subscriptions, the method comprising:
using at least one processor to perform operations comprising:

receiving a user input identifying, from among multiple publications, a publication that identifies a type of data to be distributed to data sites;

receiving a user input identifying a distribution criterion that defines the basis upon which the type of data identified by the publication is to be distributed to the data sites, the distribution criterion comprising a query executable against portions of application data;

storing, as information to be used by a subscription generator for the publication, information associating the publication that identifies the type of data to be distributed [[and]] with the distribution criterion for use in generating data subscriptions in a network of distributed computer systems operating an application program having application data of various data types;

accessing information for the subscription generator including the information associating the publication with the distribution criterion including the query;

executing, based on the accessed information for the subscription generator, the query against portions of the application data to generate a list of subscriptions for the publication associated with the subscription generator ~~identify at least one result;~~

modifying, based on generation parameters associated with the subscription generator, the list of subscriptions generated based on execution of the query;

~~identifying at least one of the data sites to which the type of data is to be distributed using the at least one result of the executed query;~~ and

generating data subscriptions for the publication associated with the subscription generator based on the modified list of subscriptions; ~~type of data to be distributed to data sites by~~

~~automatically assigning the data subscriptions to the at least one of the data sites to the generated data subscriptions based on the application data; and identified using the at least one result of the executed query~~

sending replication messages that distribute portions of the type of data identified by the publication associated with the subscription generator based on the assignment of data sites to the generated data subscriptions.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the type of data to be distributed to data sites comprises a business object type.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the type of data to be distributed to data sites comprises a publication.

13. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the distribution criterion comprises an attribute of the type of data to be distributed.

14. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the distribution criterion comprises a distribution criterion based on a relationship of data with an employee that uses a data site.

15. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the distribution criterion comprises a distribution criterion based on a responsibility of an employee that uses a data site.

16-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A system for receiving information from a user for use in generating data subscriptions, the system comprising a processor connected to a storage device and one or more ~~input/output~~ input or output devices, wherein the processor is programmed to: receive a user input identifying from among multiple publications, a publication that identifies a type of data to be distributed to data sites;

receive a user input identifying a distribution criterion that defines the basis upon which the type of data identified by the publication is to be distributed to the data sites, the distribution criterion comprising a query executable against portions of application data;

store, as information to be used by a subscription generator for the publication, information associating the publication that identifies the type of data to be distributed [[and]] with the distribution criterion for use in generating data subscriptions in a network of distributed computer systems operating an application program having application data of various data types;

access information for the subscription generator including the information associating the publication with the distribution criterion including the query;

execute, based on the accessed information for the subscription generator, the query against portions of the application data to generate a list of subscriptions for the publication associated with the subscription generator identify at least one result;

modify, based on generation parameters associated with the subscription generator, the list of subscriptions generated based on execution of the query;

identify at least one of the data sites to which the type of data is to be distributed using the at least one result of the executed query; and

generate data subscriptions for the publication associated with the subscription generator based on the modified list of subscriptions; type of data to be distributed to data sites by

automatically assigning assign the data subscriptions to the at least one of the data sites to the generated data subscriptions based on the application data; and identified using the at least one result of the executed query

send replication messages that distribute portions of the type of data identified by the publication associated with the subscription generator based on the assignment of data sites to the generated data subscriptions.

20-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 wherein:

receiving a user input identifying a distribution criterion that defines the basis upon which the type of data is to be distributed to the data sites further comprises receiving user input identifying multiple criteria attributes that are linked for purposes of generating data subscriptions; and

executing the query against portions of the application data ~~to identify at least one result~~ further comprises:

identifying attribute values of each of the multiple criteria attributes for the type of data to be distributed to data sites; and

executing a query against portions of the application data to identify at least one result that matches all of the identified attribute values of each of the multiple criteria attributes for the type of data to be distributed to data sites.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 wherein:
the distribution criterion further comprises data defining relationships between database tables that store the application data; and
~~identifying at least one of the data sites to which the type of data is to be distributed~~
automatically assigning data sites to the generated data subscriptions based on the application data further comprises traversing, using the data defining relationships between database tables that store the application data, multiple database table structures to identify ~~the at least one of the~~ data sites to which the type of data is to be distributed.

27. (New) The method of claim 10 wherein modifying, based on generation parameters associated with the subscription generator, the list of subscriptions generated based on execution of the query comprises:

accessing at least one generation parameter that indicates at least one employee to exclude in generating subscriptions for the publication;
accessing at least one generation parameter that indicates at least one employee to include in generating subscriptions for the publication; and
ignoring the distribution criterion by:
removing the at least one employee to exclude in generating subscriptions for the publication from the list of subscriptions generated based on execution of the query, and
adding the at least one employee to include in generating subscriptions for the publication to the list of subscriptions generated based on execution of the query.

28. (New) The method of claim 10 wherein automatically assigning data sites to the generated data subscriptions based on the application data comprises:

accessing a generation parameter that indicates whether or not data sites should be generated when necessary; and

when the generation parameter that indicates that data sites should be generated when necessary, creating a data site and assigning the created data site to an employee that is included in the modified list of subscriptions and for which a data site has not been previously created.

29. (New) The method of claim 10 further comprising performing a reorganization process to ensure that assignments, data sites, and subscriptions that are no longer needed are deleted, the reorganization process including:

deleting a subscription and corresponding assignments for the subscription that were generated during a first run of the subscription generator when a second run of the subscription generator indicates that the subscription and corresponding assignments for the subscription are no longer needed, the first run of the subscription generator occurring prior to the second run of the subscription generator; and

triggering a replication process to distribute data to data sites as indicated by subscriptions.

30. (New) The method of claim 10 wherein:

accessing information for the subscription generator including the information associating the publication with the distribution criterion including the query comprises accessing information for multiple subscription generators;

executing, based on the accessed information for the subscription generator, the query against portions of the application data to generate a list of subscriptions for the publication associated with the subscription generator comprises:

determining whether each of the multiple subscription generators is to be run;

identifying a subset of the multiple subscription generators to be run based on the determination of whether each of the multiple subscription generators is to be run; and

generating a list of subscriptions for the publication by applying calculation logic to the application data for each subscription generator included in the subset of the multiple subscription generators.

31. (New) The method of claim 30 further comprising:

merging responsibility information for each subscription generator included in the subset of the multiple subscription generators to eliminate redundant subscriptions from the list of subscriptions for the publication generated by applying calculation logic to the application data for each subscription generator included in the subset of the multiple subscription generators; and

after the list of subscriptions has been generated, deactivating at least one subscription generator included in the subset of the multiple subscription generators.